No. 743,826. PATENTED NOV. 10, 1903.

E. L. CALAHAN.

EXPECTORATION POUCH.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 27, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

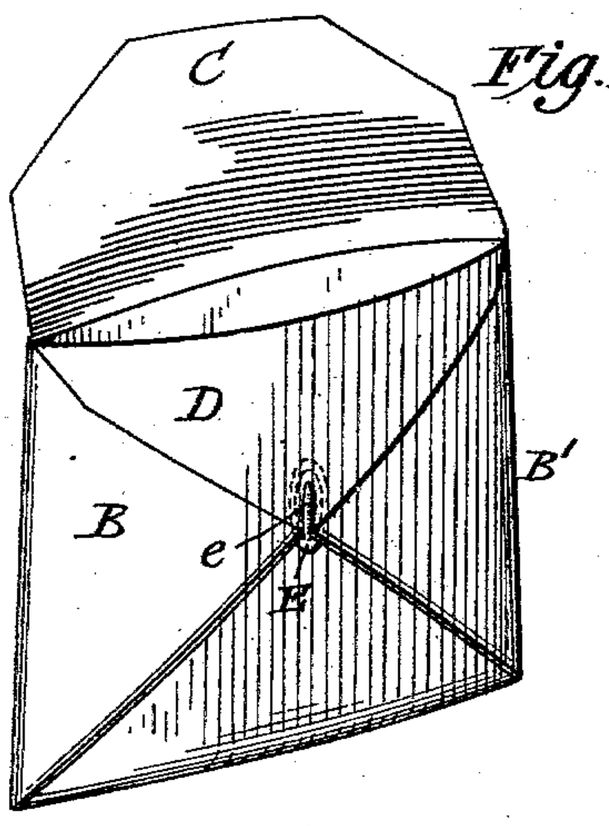


Fig. 2.

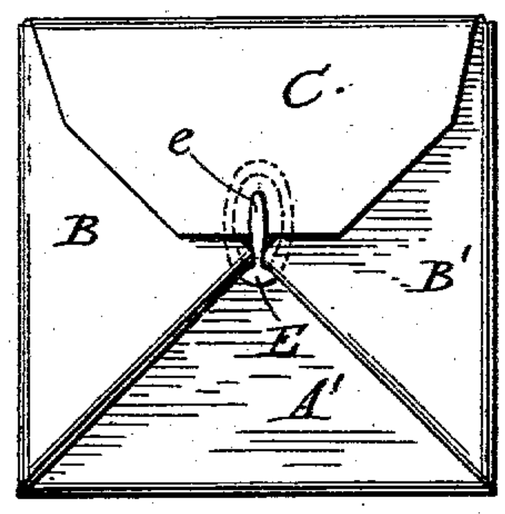


Fig. 3.

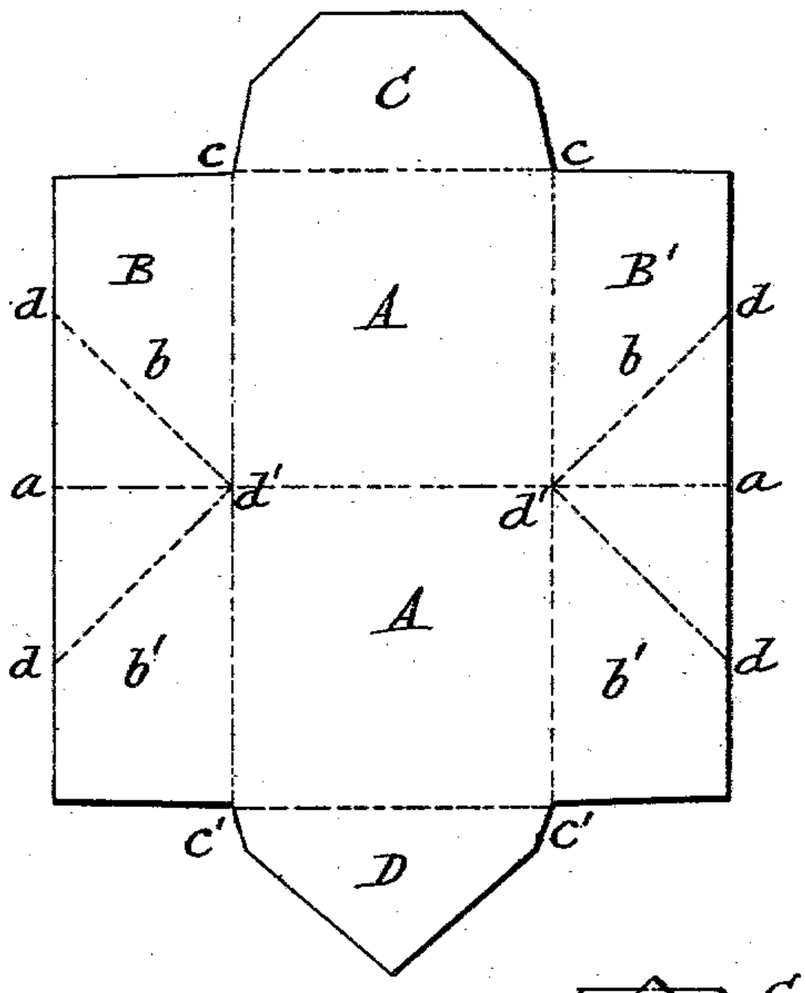


Fig. 4.

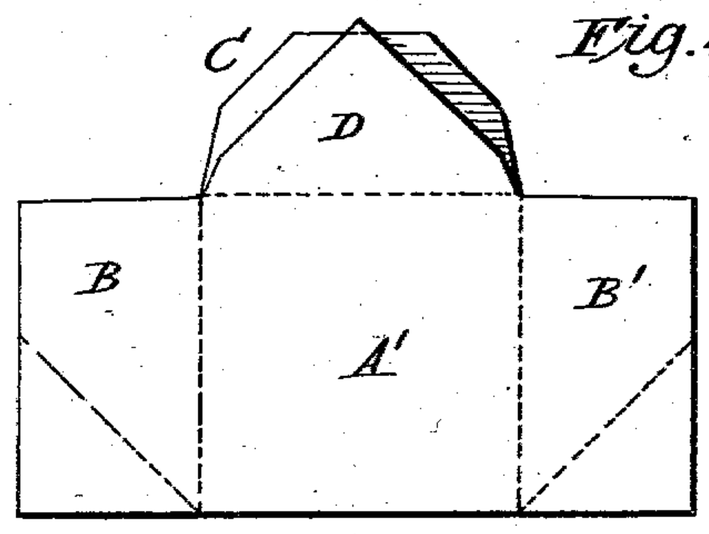


Fig. 5.

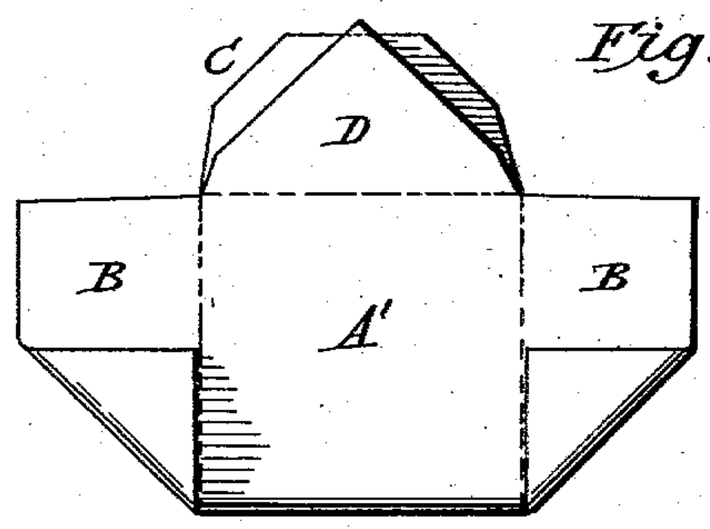


Fig. 6.

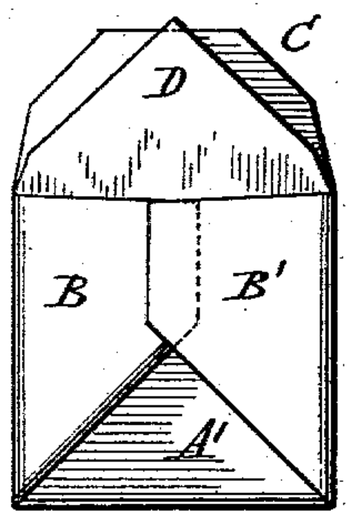
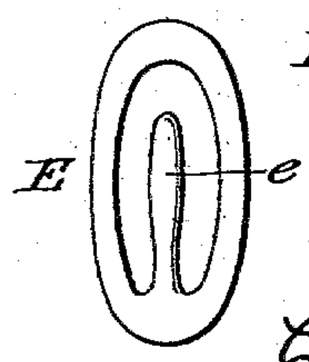


Fig. 7.



Witnesses

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No. 743,826. Patented November 10, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. CALAHAN, OF CLIFTON, NEW JERSEY.

EXPECTORATION-POUCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 743,826, dated November 10, 1903.

Application filed February 27, 1903. Serial No. 145,411. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD L. CALAHAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clifton, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Expectoration-Pouches, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a cuspidor for the use of consumptives and others who have occasion to expectorate frequently which while being entirely sanitary is small, light, and not easily broken, in order that it may be easily handled, and so inexpensive that after being used for a short time it may, with its contents, be burned or otherwise destroyed.

In many hospitals the use of ordinary cuspidors is prohibited, and various devices have been substituted; but none prior to my invention, so far as I am aware, have completely and satisfactorily combined cheapness of construction with simplicity of use and perfect sanitation.

In carrying out my invention I construct from paper or similar material, which should be sufficiently waterproof, a pouch which is adapted to contain a roll or wad of absorbent cotton or similar material, and having at the top a flap which may be opened and closed at will. When in use, the flap is lifted to expose the interior of the pouch, and the expectoration is received upon the cotton within it. When not in use, the pouch may be closed by the flap, and when the pouch is full or after a definite length of time—say twenty-four hours—the pouch may be closed and, with its contents, burned or otherwise destroyed.

Preferably I construct the pouch of stout rope Manila paper, which is sufficiently waterproof, a blank being formed of the proper shape, and this is creased, bent, and folded, so that a receptacle closed on all sides except at the top is provided, the meeting ends of the folded portions being held together by means of a clip, which also serves to receive the edge of the flap when the latter is folded down to close the receptacle.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an expectoration-pouch constructed in accordance with my invention, the flap being lifted to expose the interior. Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof with the flap closed and locked. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank from which the pouch is constructed. Fig. 4 is a view of the blank after it has been given the first fold. Fig. 5 indicates the appearance of the blank after the lower corners of the side wings have been folded. Fig. 6 indicates the next step in which the wings are folded over and made to overlap. Fig. 7 illustrates a paper-clip which may be employed to secure the side wings to each other and to the flap projecting from the top of the front body portion of the blank.

The outline of the blank is shown by full lines in Fig. 3. It consists of a central body portion made up of two square or rectangular parts A A′, side wings B B′, a top flap C, and bottom flap D. The blank is creased on the line *a a*, which extends horizontally across the blank midway between its upper and lower ends, divides the parts A and A′ from each other, and divides each wing B B′ into two equal parts *b b′*. The blank is also creased along the lines *c c′* between the wings and the body portions A A′ and also along the lines *c c* and *c′ c′* between the parts A A′ and the top and bottom flaps C and D. Creases are also formed along the lines *d d′* in the wings on diagonal lines extending from the intersection of the lines *a a* and *c c′* outwardly toward the top and bottom ends of the wings and reaching to the outer side edges thereof. The lower flap D is of a general triangular shape, its inner edge being of the same width as the part A′, and the upper flap C, while not pointed or triangular, like the flap D, is of the same width at its inner edge as the part A. The two flaps are of substantially the same length, the lower flap D being, as shown, a trifle longer, each being in length about half the length of the part A or A′. The exact dimensions specified are, however, not absolutely essential. I have described the precise form shown in the drawings.

While I have stated that the blank is creased, it is obvious that it may be bent in the first instance without being creased, the bending being upon the lines indicated in the drawings and described as creases. The blank shown in Fig. 3 is first bent on the line *a a*, the parts then assuming the position shown in Fig. 4. After this the lower corners of the wings are bent along the diagonal lines *d d′*

in the manner indicated in Fig. 5, and then the wings are folded along the lines *c c'*, thus producing a pouch closed on all sides except at the top, as indicated in Fig. 6; but this last operation leaves the bottom flap D projecting upwardly. This is turned down to the position shown in Fig. 1, and then a clip E, preferably of the kind shown in Fig. 7, is applied at the angle formed between the wings where they overlap, and the lower end or flap D is made to engage the tongue *e* of the clip. While I prefer to use the kind of clip shown in Fig. 7, there are other well-known forms of clips which may be used. In this way a closed receptacle or pouch is made without the use of paste or other adhesive, the parts being held together without danger of accidental separation. As thus formed the pouch has a single thickness of material at the back to which the top flap is connected and a front portion consisting of a single thickness of material A', overlapped by the side wings and the bottom flap D of the blank, which are secured by the clip in the manner before stated. Absorbent cotton or similar material is placed in the pouch, being forced down to the bottom thereof. After each use the top flap C may be turned down and made to engage the clip in the manner indicated in Fig. 2, and when the pouch is full or after a definite length of time—say twenty-four hours—the pouch in its sealed condition (indicated in Fig. 2) with its contents may be burned or otherwise destroyed.

It is obvious that a pouch of the kind hereinbefore described can be very cheaply made. A single piece of paper and a single inexpensive clip are the only separate parts which it is necessary to use. Each pouch may be very quickly formed by bending the blank on the lines indicated, and a clip may be very easily and quickly applied to fasten the folded parts together. It is also obvious that the pouch may be opened and closed quickly and easily and that there is no danger of leakage, because the paper used is sufficiently waterproof, as before stated, and the parts of the blank overlap each other to such an extent that the contents of the pouch cannot possibly find its way out between the overlapping layers.

The size and shape of the pouch may be varied; but it is preferably made rectangular, about three inches square, and may, if desired, be safely carried in the pocket.

I claim as my invention—

An expectoration-pouch made from a single piece of paper or similar material, consisting of a body having front and rear portions folded upon themselves, side wings projecting from both portions of the body folded upon themselves, turned at their lower corners and overlapped upon the body, one of said body portions having an end flap folded down over upon the folded wings and detachably secured to said wings by a single clip, and the other body portion having an end flap for closing the pouch which is adapted to be secured to said wings and the other end flap by said clip.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

EDWARD L. CALAHAN.

Witnesses:
KATHARINE MACMAHON,
L. F. BROWNING.